

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11 AGR-20 OMB-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03

PM-07 IO-14 DRC-01 /135 W

----- 078792

P R 061245Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4870

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSMACTHAI

JCS WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 1815

FOR STATE/AID

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB

SUBJ: RICE SITUATION

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE RICE SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION SITUATION  
IN PHNOM PENH FOR THE ONE-WEEK PERIOD JANUARY 28 THROUGH  
FEBRUARY 3, 1974.

JAN 28 JAN 29 JAN 30 JAN 31

BEGINNING STOCK 23,477.6 22,454.7 22,799.6 22,196.2

ROUTE 5 - - - -

ROUTE 4 - - - -

MEKONG - 941.0 - -

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TOTAL AVAILABLE 23,477.6 23,395.7 22,799.6 22,196.2

LESS DISTRIBUTION	404.8	517.9	552.6	447.0
BALANCE	23,072.8	22,877.8	22,247.0	21,749.2
ADJUSTMENT	(-)618.1	(-)78.1	(-)50.8	(-) 51.9
BALANCE	22,454.7	22,799.7	22,196.2	21,697.3

FEB 1	FEB 2	FEB 3
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BEGINNING STOCK	21,697.3	20,967.7	20,446.4
ROUTE 5	-	-	-
ROUTE 4	-	-	-
MEKONG	-	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE	21,697.3	20,967.7	20,446.4
LESS DISTRIBUTION	677.7	471.7	-
BALANCE	21,019.6	20,496.0	20,446.4
ADJUSTMENT	(-) 51.9	(-) 49.6	-
BALANCE	20,967.7	20,446.4	20,446.4

NOTE: REASONS FOR THE ABOVE DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENTS ARE THREE-FOLD: (A) UNDERWEIGHT SACKS, (B) SPOILAGE, AND (C) TONNAGE SHOWN ON SHIP MANIFEST IN EXCESS OF QUANTITY ACTUALLY DISCHARGED.

2. STOCK POSITION. AS OF COB FEBRUARY 3, THE RICE STOCK ON HAND IN PUBLIC WAREHOUSES AMOUNTED TO 20,446 METRIC TONS. THE SURPLUS STOCK AT KOMPONG SOM REMAINED AT THE 17,000 M/T LEVEL, GIVING A TOTAL IN-COUNTRY AVAILABILITY OF 37,446 M/T ON FEBRUARY 3.

THE BUILD-UP OF RICE STOCKS IS NOT PROGRESSING FAST ENOUGH BECAUSE OF REPEATED DELAYS IN ARRIVALS OF U.S. RICE VESSELS AT SAIGON. FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, ONLY 25,000 M/T WERE DISCHARGED AT PHNOM PENH PORT, AND 9,000 M/T AT KOMPONG SOM.

DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD, DELIVERIES TO PHNOM PENH CONSISTED OF 941 M/T IN 2 VIETNAMESE BARGES ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE WITH THE JANUARY 27 REGULAR MEKONG CONVOY.

3. DISTRIBUTION. THE GKR'S AVERAGE DAILY DISTRIBUTION DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD WAS 438.8 M/T ALTHOUGH THE OFFICIAL DAILY QUOTA REMAINS AT 650 M/T. REASONS FOR THE DECLINE IN GKR RICE DISTRIBUTION APPEAR TO BE SEVERAL. FIRST, AS A RESULT OF INCREASED DISTRIBUTION DURING LATE

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NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER PRIVATE FAMILY RICE STOCKS ARE NOW BEING BUILT UP TO LEVELS THAT EXISTED BEFORE THE SHORTAGES OF SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND EARLY NOVEMBER. SECONDLY, LIMITED AMOUNTS OF RECENTLY HARVESTED DOMESTIC RICE IS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE FREE MARKET FROM AREAS CLOSE TO THE CITY AND TO A LESSER EXTENT FROM BATTAMBANG. (SOME OF THE BATTAMBANG RICE HAS COME VIA KOMPONG CHHNANG BY BARGE AND REPORTEDLY OTHER AMOUNTS BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT.) FINALLY, AS A RESULT OF THE ENEMY

OFFENSIVE CLOSING OFF ROUTES OUT OF THE CITY AND TIGHTENED GKR CONTROLS (SUCH AS LIMITING MILITARY DEPENDENTS TO PURCHASES FROM THE FANK SYSTEM) LESS RICE IS PROBABLY BEING SYPHONED FROM THE OFFICIAL GKR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM THAN WAS EARLIER THE CASE. THE FOLLOWING DAILY AVERAGE FIGURES BY WEEKLY PERIODS DO SHOW THAT DISTRIBUTION STARTED TO DROP BELOW THE 650 M/T QUOTA IN THE EARLY PART OF JANUARY:

WEEKLY PERIOD DAILY AVERAGE

1974	1/1 - 1/6	666.2 M/T
	1/7 - 1/13	558.6
	1/14 - 1/20	553.5
	1/21 - 1/27	429.7
	1/28 - 2/2	438.8

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CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03

PM-07 IO-14 DRC-01 /135 W  
----- 079930

P R 061245Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4871

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSMACTHAI

JCS WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 1815

THE DAILY AVERAGE FOR THE WHOLE MONTH OF JANUARY WAS 539.1 M/T

AS COMPARED TO 654.4 M/T FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1973. IF WE WERE TO TAKE THE JANUARY DAILY AVERAGE AS A BASE, THE STOCK ON HAND IN PHNOM PENH ON FEBRUARY 3 WOULD CORRESPOND TO 38 DAYS' SUPPLY, WHILE THE COMBINED PHNOM PENH/KOMPONG SOM STOCK WOULD EQUAL 69.4 DAYS' SUPPLY. UNTIL WE GET A BETTER FIX ON THE PRESENT DOWNWARD TREND, WE PREFER TO CONTINUE BASING OUR PROJECTION ON A DISTRIBUTION RATE OF 650 M/T PER DAY WHICH GIVES 31.4 DAYS' SUPPLY FOR PHNOM PENH AND 57.6 DAYS' SUPPLY FOR THE COMBINED PHNOM PENH/KOMPONG SOM STOCK.

4. FEBRUARY ARRIVALS. THE REGULAR MEKONG CONVOY THAT ARRIVED FEBRUARY 4 BROUGHT IN 8,834 M/T OF RICE AS FOLLOWS:

VESSEL/BARGE

VESSEL/BARGE	M/T	ORIGIN
BATTY C-1	900	U.S. (EX-PRESIDENT ARTHUR)

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LUZON 1960	1,700	"	"
LUZON 1964	1,700	"	"
TCS 201-67	1,684	"	"
BONANZA	1,600	"	"
SINCERE ORIENT	1,250	"	"

THE MEKONG CONVOY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE FEBRUARY 11 IS NOW EXPECTED TO BRING IN ONLY 3 TO 4,000 M/T BECAUSE OF FURTHER DELAYS IN THE ARRIVAL SAIGON OF U.S. FIRCE VESSELS. ACCORDING TO USAID/SAIGON, THE M/S PRESIDENT JACKSON SCHEDULED FOR FEB. 2 IS NOW DUE FEBRUARY 16, AND THE M/S CHIEH CHUAN IS DUE FEB. 14 INSTEAD OF 7. THE UNCONFIRMED ETA FOR THE M/S FREDERICK LYKES IS FEBRUARY 6, TOO LATE TO TRANSHIP ANY SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF RICE. THESE DELAYS ARE BOUND TO HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE PROJECTED FEBRUARY BUILD-UP OF RICE STOCKS IN PHNOM PENH. IT ALSO MEANS THAT USAID/SAIGON-CHARTERED COASTERS AND BARGES WILL BE UNDER-UTILIZED. TO SEND THEM TO KOMPONG SOM IN BETWEEN TWO MEKONG CONVOYS IS NOT FEASIBLE BECAUSE THE TURN-AROUND TIME IS TWO WEEKS MINIMUM.

ENDERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RICE, SUPPLIES, STOCKPILES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1974PHNOM01815  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** PHNOM PENH  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740252/aaaabwlj.tel  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** RICE SITUATION  
**TAGS:** EGEN, EAID, CB  
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